



Microsoft estimated that around 2.2 million people in Arkansas, over two thirds of the state's population, do not experience the Internet at minimum broadband speeds.

In Arkansas, the FCC evaluated three million residents statewide. Regarding fixed connections at minimum speeds of 25/3 Mbps, it found that 2.4 million people (81%) had baseline access. Those in rural Arkansas had fewer options. The Commission found that 850,000 of 1.3 million residents (63.3%) had fixed broadband access. In urban areas, it evaluated 1.7 million people and found that 1.6 million (95.2%) had access to a fixed connection at minimum speeds.

The [State of Arkansas' broadband map](#), housed within the state broadband office's website, uses Form 477 data from June 2019 and data submitted to the state directly by providers. AR Rural Connect's map shows areas where state funding is targeted. Additionally, Arkansas invites residents to [complete a speed test](#) in order to improve the accuracy of broadband data mapping.

In December 2020, the Arkansas Legislative Council [approved funding](#) for broadband studies in Sherwood, Tull, and Ward, as well as Little River County, Perry County, the Eagle Ridge Property Owners Association in Pulaski County, and Kick Start Sheridan in Sheridan/Grant County.

BroadbandNow estimates that in [Arkansas](#), 54.3% of the state has terrestrial broadband coverage and 52.7% of residents have access to a wired plan that costs \$60 a month or under. Based on Microsoft's estimates, around 2.2 million people in Arkansas (over two-thirds of the state's population) do not use the Internet at broadband speeds.

Additional Resources:

- [Arkansas Broadband Office](#)
- [University of Arkansas](#)
- [Arkansas State Broadband Manager's Report](#)
- [Coronavirus pandemic exposes Arkansas as worst in country when it comes to Internet connectivity](#)